



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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February 27, 2006

The Honorable Norm Dicks
2467 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dicks:

We are strongly opposed to proposed bill H.R. 4167 and encourage you to vote No on this bill.

WSDA has numerous concerns about possible federal preemption of Washington State Food Safety regulations. The current proposed bill **H.R. 4167, the "National Uniformity for Food Act"** as written would impact Food Safety regulations and the state's ability to protect consumers from unsafe and improperly processed food products. HR 4167 should be amended so that uniform food labeling is addressed without impacting strong state food safety regulations that go beyond basic food labeling concerns.

We encourage you to be supportive of strong food safety regulations and to oppose this bill as written.

Sincerely,

FOOD SAFETY AND CONSUMER SERVICES DIVISION


Jerry Buendel
Assistant Director of Agriculture

